

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6 and 7 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 3 are amended.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 since the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration as the amendments merely resolve a §112 issue; (c) do not present any additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims; and (d) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully assert that the amended claims 1 and 3 read on the elected Species. In particular, the elected Species does not specifically exclude the substrate having a shrinking property and claims 1 and 3 do not exclude a step of the extending substrate.¹ Thus, claims 1 and 3 are within the scope of elected Species I.

This is further engendered by the fact that the elected Species (i.e. extending the substrate), included claim 1, which did not specifically recite a feature for extending the substrate at the time of the election, and claim 1 was examined with elected Species I by the Examiner.

Claim 2 is withdrawn from consideration being held to a non-elected species. However, it should be noted that claim 2 recites similar features as claims 1 and 3, and also does not specifically exclude a step of the extending substrate. Thus, Applicant requests the rejoinder of claim 2.

¹ By using the transitional phrase "comprising" the claim is not limited to only the recited elements.

Claim 5 is withdrawn from consideration being held to a non-elected species.

However, it should be noted that claim 5 is dependent on claim 3 which is currently pending as reading on the elected species. Thus, Applicant requests the rejoinder of claim 5

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants submit that there is abundant disclosure in the specification to support claims 1, 3, 4, 6 and 7. For example, see paragraphs [0177] - [0185]. Particularly, paragraph [0179] teaches that both a substrate 501 and an element layer 20 have photo-shrinking properties, and paragraph [0180] teaches that the element layer 20 includes a photo-functional layer 510. Further, Figure 25 also discloses a substrate 501, an element layer 20 and a photo-functional layer 510, all having photo-shrinking properties.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that there is adequate disclosure for claims 1, 3, 4, 6 and 7. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1, 3, 4, 6 and 7 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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